

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/994,200

Examiner

John Pezzlo

Applicant(s)

NORRIS ET AL.

Art Unit

2662

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to terminal disclaimer filed 21 July 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-27 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicants have claimed the following uniquely distinct features in the instant invention which are not found in the prior art, either singularly or in combination.

1. Regarding claim 1 - A method of processing a telephone call from a calling station to a called station that is busy as a result of having established a connection to a data network via an enhanced telephone switching system, said method comprising the steps of receiving said call at said enhanced telephone switching system and responsive to said called station being busy, sending a message to said called station via said connection to said data network to alert a subscriber at said called station to the receipt of said call, and connecting said calling station to said called station via said connection to said data network so that a caller at said calling station may communicate with a subscriber at said called station.
2. Regarding claim 15 - A method of processing a call waiting feature for a first telephone station set whose telephone line is connected to the Internet comprising the steps of responsive to receiving at an enhanced telephone switching system, an initial call from said first telephone

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station, extending a connection from said first telephone station to said Internet, receiving a voice call from a second telephone station directed to said first telephone station, and, responsive to said first telephone station being connected to said Internet, sending a data message via said connection to said first telephone station to alert a subscriber to receipt of the voice call from said second telephone station, and bridging a connection to said second telephone station with the connection between said Internet and said first telephone station so that a caller at said second telephone station may communicate with said subscriber at said first telephone station.

3. Regarding claim 26 - A method of processing a three-way calling feature for a first telephone station set whose telephone line is connected to the Internet, comprising the steps of responsive to receiving at an enhanced telephone switching system an initial call from said first telephone station, extending a connection from said first telephone station to said Internet, receiving a voice call from a second telephone station directed to said first telephone station and, responsive to said first telephone station being connected to said Internet, sending a data message via said connection to said first telephone station to alert a subscriber to the receipt of the voice call from said second telephone station, and bridging a connection to said second telephone station to the connection between said Internet and said first telephone station so that a caller at said second telephone station may communicate with said subscriber at said first telephone station, then responsive to receiving a voice call from a third telephone station directed to said first telephone station while said first telephone station is connected to said second telephone station, bridging connections to said second telephone station and said third telephone station to a three-way conference circuit, and bridging said three-way conference circuit to the connection between said Internet and said first telephone station.

The closest prior art, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Claims 1-27 being allowable, **Prosecution On The Merits Is Closed** in this application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Pezzlo whose telephone number is (571) 272-3090. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou, can be reached on (571) 272-3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C.

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or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306

For informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"

Hand delivered responses should be brought to:

Jefferson Building

500 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA.

John Pezzlo

8 October 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Pezzlo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER